

PROCLAMATION **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**OCTOBER 2004

WHEREAS, across our country, domestic violence traumatizes victims, endangers children, harms families and threatens communities; and

WHEREAS, during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we renew our commitment to prevent and punish the perpetrators of these tragic crimes, and bring hope and healing to those who have been impacted by them; and

WHEREAS, a Day of Unity is observed the first Monday in October to mourn those who have died because of violence, celebrate those who have survived and recognize those who work to end the violence; and

WHEREAS, local non-profit and community-based programs and their volunteers are providing critical assistance and support to victims in need, helping them find a life free from violence; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to help raise awareness about how to identify and stop domestic violence and to recognize those who are working to improve the lives of violence survivors and their families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2004, **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State